IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE DS Wholes

IN RE: PATENT APPLICATION OF

YOSHIOKA Group Art Unit: 2652

Appln. No.: 09/955,308 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: September 19, 2001

Title: OPTICAL-SYSTEM DRIVING APPARATUS AND OPTICAL-SYSTEM

DRIVING METHOD

February 11, 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Attached is a Form PTO 1449 listing the enclosed document.

This Information Disclosure Statement is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f), to enable Applicant to comply fully.

Consideration of the foregoing and the enclosure plus the return of a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per MPEP 609 along with an early action on the merits of this application are earnestly solicited.

By

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WANTHROP LLP

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Information Sheet for preparing an Information Disclosure Statement under Rule 1.56

Suzuye Ref. 01S0397

Foreign Patent Documents

Document No.:

5-189790, published July 30, 1993

Country:

Japan

Copy of reference:

attached

Language:

non-English

English translation: not attached because it is not readily available Concise Explanation of Pertinency: This publication suggests analog multiplexing for an output signal form of pickup. However, the present invention is not for dealing with a pickup output, but for digitally-multiplexing a driving signal for positioning of a servo. The present invention is different from that of the publication in subject and method.

Foreign Patent Documents

Document No.:

2-120671, published May 8, 1990

Country:

Japan

Copy of reference:

attached

Language:

non-English

English translation: not attached because it is not readily available Concise Explanation of Pertinency: This publication discloses a data transmission technique of an indicative data processing apparatus. However the property unique to an optical disk apparatus is not taken into account.